

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3149

ANSWERED ON:21.03.2017

Income of Farmers

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the amount of indebtedness on each farmer is more than the national average of annual income in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there has been increase of loan burden on farmers as a result of liberal sanctioning of institutional loan to farmers and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether monthly income of farmers has increased in the country during the year 2002-2013 and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether income from farm sector is less as compared to that of industrial and service sectors and the farmers are leaving the profession of agriculture and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the scheme/policy formulated to increase the income of farmers by making agriculture a viable profession and giving the farmers a special and different treatment in the country; and
- (e) whether any panel/expert group has recommended reduction in the investment in the agriculture as well as in irrigation in the country and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): As per the "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households" conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) during 2013 (January-December), the average amount of outstanding loan per agricultural household is estimated at Rs. 47,000. The average annual income per agricultural household as per the Survey is estimated at Rs. 77,112.

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(b): The initiatives taken by the Government towards increasing institutional agricultural credit are focused on ensuring timely and adequate credit to the farmers with least debt implications.

(c): The average monthly income per agricultural household, as per the "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households" conducted by NSSO, is estimated to have increased from Rs. 2115 in 2003 to Rs. 6426 in 2013. State-wise details are given in the Annexure.

(d): Income from farm sector is less as compared to income from industrial and services sector. Government has recently taken various measures to increase farm production and productivity with a view to improve the economic conditions of the farmers. These include, inter-alia, implementation of schemes like, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Soil Health Card, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Neem Coated Urea, creation of a unified national agriculture market (e-NAM), etc. Further, the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of major agricultural commodities has been progressively increased to ensure remunerative price to the farmers.

The total number of agricultural workers in the country has increased from 234.1 million in 2001 to 263.1 million in 2011, as per the decennial Census conducted by Registrar General of India.

(e): No, Madam.